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## Media Release

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## Formerly Licensed Insurance Producer Pleads Guilty to Insurance Fraud

**Columbia, S.C.** – On August 29, 2022, Keisha Keyona Williams entered a guilty plea in Williamsburg County to the charge of *Presenting a false claim for an insurance payment, with a value more than \$2,000 but less than \$10,000*. At the time of the offense, Williams was a licensed insurance producer for Progressive Insurance.

The charge was the result of an allegation of insurance fraud submitted to the South Carolina Department of Insurance (SCDOI) on October 4, 2021, and subsequently investigated by SLED. The investigation revealed that Williams submitted a forged or altered medical bill to Progressive Insurance in a claim stemming from a motor vehicle collision. The amount of the forged bill was over \$5,000, but payment was denied by the carrier as a result of fraud detection. At the plea, Williams was sentenced to three years suspended upon 18 months of probation.

Insurance fraud is a prevalent crime in South Carolina, and it is costly for consumers. The average family pays up to an extra \$700 a year in premiums to cover the costs of fraud. If you suspect insurance fraud, we encourage you to file a complaint with the SCDOI's Insurance Fraud Division.

More information about insurance fraud in South Carolina can be found in the SCDOI's Annual Fraud Report.

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